



THE BLUE ROOM

IF THESE WALLS COULD TALK

by **Careshia Moore**
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Southern Journal Magazine has had an incredible opportunity to step into the very private world of Governor Nathan and First Lady Sandra Deal. Because it was recently redecorated, the Deal's have graciously allowed our readership to take a look into their living quarters in the Governor's Mansion. This is the first in a planned series.

Driving past 391 West Paces Ferry Road in Northeast Atlanta, one finds a luxurious mansion that sits on 18 acres of well-manicured land. This stately, Greek-inspired mansion is where Governor Nathan Deal and First Lady Sandra Deal reside. The Governor's mansion, designed by Georgia architect Thomas Bradbury and built in 1967, has three floors, covers 24,000 square feet and 30 well-decorated rooms. Outside of the mansion stand Doric columns that are positioned around the porches of the mansion.

All of the rooms on the first floor of the mansion are used for entertaining, hosting guests, and are open for tours. The public can come in and take in the sights of paintings and artifacts of various historical periods. However, not until now has the public had an inside look into the private living quarters of the Deal's residence located on the second floor of the mansion.

The Governor and First Lady Deal have graciously allowed the readers of Southern Journal Magazine to take a peek into the area where they retire after a long day of serving the citizens of Georgia. This series of exclusive features will provide you with photographs, facts and inside information regarding various rooms located on the second floor of the mansion.

The first room that you will explore is the Blue Room. The Blue Room is a guest room that is furnished with existing furniture in its original state or furniture reupholstered by Furniture Works, Inc. in Atlanta. The room has a four-poster bed that was discovered in the mansion. Initially, the bed did not have a headboard and proved to be uncom-

fortable for guests. However, a search in the attic of the mansion revealed a perfectly matched headboard that is currently used.

The rug that extends out from under the bed was donated and determined the color palette of the room. The custom drapery and bedding was exquisitely crafted by The Designer's Workroom in Atlanta. "The drapery is pinch pleated on a wooden pole with finials with trim on the leading edge," describes Vicki Zimmerman from Zimmerman Design Associates, Inc. in Eatonton.

The wing chair and bedding, including the dust ruffle and coverlet and its lining, were created by Kravet Fabrics, an industry leader in to-the-trade fabric selection. This high-end fabric house specializes in "style, luxury and exceptional design." Certainly, the Governor's mansion is a picture of style and luxury.

The drapery fabric and bathroom wall covering was designed and created by Lee Jofa Fabrics. Lee Jofa was established in 1965 and is one of the world's leading sources of fine fabrics.

Finally, the granite in the bathroom is provided by Walker Zanger, a world-leading brand in the luxury stone and tile industry.

Without a doubt, the living quarters of the Governor's Mansion have been carefully designed to create an impeccable and lovely place to call home. We look forward to providing you a further look into the charming and elegant rooms on the second floor of the Georgia Governor's Mansion. **S**

